

The next WISSH meeting is Tuesday, March 6, 2007 at 3:30 p.m.

Town of Wenham  
Wenham Issues of Social Service Housing  
Meeting of Tuesday, February 6, 2007 ~ 3:30 PM  
Recreation Building, School Street

Present: Susan Harnisch, Chair; Ann Mulry- Shaw; Margaret Scoglio; Sue Bannon; Tom Tanous; Susan Carp; Don Killam; Cal Perkins; Jack Hauck(4:36pm)

Also Present: Catherine Tinsley, Secretary

Not Present: Bob Blanchard; Win Dodge; Don Luxton; Ken Walsh;

Abbreviations used:

WISSH - Wenham Issues of Social Service Housing

BOS – Board of Selectmen

M.G.L. – Massachusetts General Law

Public information provided:

Agenda

Ms. Harnisch called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

Minutes

*Mr. Tanous made a motion to accept the WISSH minutes of January 2, 2007 as written.*

*Mr. Killam seconded.*

*Voting in favor: Sue Harnisch; Ann Mulry- Shaw; Margaret Scoglio; Sue Bannon; Tom Tanous; Susan Carp; Don Killam; Cal Perkins; Jack Hauck*

*Opposed: None*

*MOTION CARRIED*

Susan Harnisch - WISSH Coordinator

Ms. Harnisch reported the following:

- WISSH Account balance: \$13783.94, not including recent contributions/grant
- Contributions received in response to the recent mailing: \$7,105.00
- Grant received from the First Church in Wenham: \$2,000.00
- Annual report was submitted in mid January
- Two requests;
  - 2102007 – \$77.22 fuel assistance – approved
  - 2112007-\$500.00 fuel assistance - approved

The committee was informed about a request received for assistance; this person has received \$500 from WISSH within the past twelve months.

A discussion followed if the committee should make an exception to the bylaw that states a person/family may receive up to \$500 in twelve month. After a brief discussion the Committee concluded that the bylaws do not allow them this discretion and the request will be denied.

It was the consensus of the committee to put this request on hold until the twelve month anniversary of the applicant.

Additional possible resources were shared with the applicant at the time of the request.

4:05 pm - Sue Carp left the meeting

The bylaws require committee members to notify the Chair if they will be absent from a meeting; after three consecutively missed meetings, that person may be asked to resign through the BOS. Discussion followed about possible alternatives to the monthly meeting schedule, it was noted that the bylaws call for the committee to meet once a month.

Heather Ford was contacted to speak to the Committee regarding Hamilton's assistance program. Because of her schedule, she recommended Loretta Cusack speak in her place. Ms. Ford requested a copy of the fund raising letter recently used in Wenham and authorization to use it in Hamilton.

It was the consensus of the Committee that the letter be shared as requested.

In response to the request of the Committee to gather WISSH statistics, Mr. Hauck presented a spread sheet of a data of non identifying information of residents assisted.

This information is within M.G.L. Chpt 11 Confidential Act.

It was noted that assistance with fuel was the most requested item followed by medical issues. The Committee reviewed and discussed the information.

4:20pm – Mr. Hauck made a motion to adjourn and it was unanimous to do so.

Mr. Perkins will not be at the March meeting.